



### Sermon Discussion Questions: Matthew 7

#### **Matthew 7:1-6**

1. Share a story of when you judged or were judged by others. What happened? Was it done well or poorly? What were the results?
2. Our culture says that we shouldn't judge others. Using this passage, how would you respond to them?
3. Jesus tells us that there's a right and wrong way to judge. Explain.
4. In what ways are you tempted to judge like the pharisees? Is there anyone you need to make things right with? How can your group pray for you?
5. In what ways are you tempted to not make a judgment even when God has called you to? Is there anyone you need to pursue to point them to Christ? How can your group pray for you?

#### **Matthew 7:7-12**

1. Share a time when God answered your prayer.
2. Jesus makes some significant promises and illustrations in this passage related to prayer; yet sometimes we don't pray. What keeps you from praying?
3. What is a request God has yet to grant you even though you're asking, seeking, and knocking? How might Jesus' words encourage you to persevere in prayer?
4. As you hear Jesus' words, how might He be inviting you to grow in your prayer life? How can your group come alongside you in responding to this invitation?
5. Jesus sums up the law and prophets by providing us with "the golden rule." Is there a particular person or situation which God is calling you to obey this rule right now? How might remembering God's generosity towards you help you be generous towards others?

#### **Matthew 7:13-23**

1. The mantra of our culture is that all roads lead to heaven. How have you seen this displayed? What have been the results?
2. Jesus teaches that there are 2 ways of living and uses several illustrations to help us understand. Explain Jesus' teaching.
3. Jesus calls us to look at the fruit of someone's life to determine whether they are truly following after Him. How have you seen this principle practiced helpfully? Unhelpfully?
4. What fruit is currently coming out of your life? What does that reveal about your roots? What might need to change to help you bear more good fruit?
5. When you hear the warnings of Jesus, which person(s) comes to mind? How might you and your group pray for them?

### **Matthew 7:24-29**

1. With this being the last section of the Sermon on the Mount, which part has most helped, encouraged, or inspired you?
2. In this familiar passage, Jesus uses a metaphor to compare and contrast those who listen and obey or don't listen and obey Him. Talk about the meaning of this well-known story.
3. Jesus makes it clear that those who build their life on Him will endure the "storms of life." What storms has He brought you through?
4. What storm of life are you encountering right now? How is Jesus calling you to build your house upon Him as your rock? How can your group pray for you?
5. Who is not building their life on Jesus? How might your group pray for and come alongside you & them?